

THE ל'פמז SHEKEL

VOLUME III NO. 3

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HIGHLIGHTS

Numismatic Museums: A New Series

Tokens of the Templars

Matzoh Money

First Coins of Israel

Judah P. Benjamin and Confederate Currency

Other Coin Cities of Israel

Discovery of Variances

New Data on 5 and 10 Agorot Coins

Ukrainian 100 Karbowanetz Notes

Bogus Money in Palestine: 1946-8

Club News and Other Features

See Table of Contents Page 1



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THE SHEKEL is the official publication of the AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC. and will appear quarterly with the purpose of establishing an authoritative source of information and knowledge pertaining to numismatics of Modern and Ancient Israel. THE SHEKEL will bring to all numismatists the most current information available with reference to the foregoing.

THE SHEKEL will exist only for the benefit of its readers. To further that purpose, it will coordinate the activities of all with the hope that there will be a meaningful interchange of information, views and ideas through its pages.

THE SHEKEL will strive to be informative, interesting, educational and entertaining. To that end, it will endeavor to obtain articles and treatises from leading authorities in the United States, Israel and from other countries.

Finally, THE SHEKEL will be of interest not only to advanced collectors and numismatists but also to those just starting out on that delightful path leading to greater understanding and knowledge of Israeli numismatics.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The groundwork for the further growth and development of AINA has taken another step forward as the result of what will have been a milestone in the history of AINA: the first national meeting of the Presidents of AINA clubs. It will have convened

and reviewed plans which will have benefits for the AINA club members that will be felt beginning in 1971.

All presidents were not able to attend this one-day summer conference in New York. Perhaps in 1971, we will hold two meetings with East and West Coast groups. But the fact will stand that the Advisory Council (all AINA presidents) and your Board of Directors, officers, executives of the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation and a few guests met to project the future education and cultural programs which give our group its vitality.

Continued on page 32

The SHEKEL

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

The President's Message	Inside Cover
Numismatic Museums of the World by Wilma Thompson (New Series)	2
Tokens of the Templars by Yaakov Meshorer, Jerusalem	4
The Matzoh Money of Doctor Wallach by Dov Genachowski, Jerusalem	6
First Coins of Israel by Emil Weitz	8
Unique Coin Presented to Magnes Museum	11
Judah P. Benjamin and Currency of the Confederate States by Harry Flower	12
The Other Coin Cities of Israel by Edward Janis	14
III Study Tour to Israel Set	16
Judaean Jottings: Judaean Journey, Part I by Mel Wacks	17
Gould's Gelt Guide by Maurice N. Gould	18
The Discovery of Variances as told by Alice Reid	19
Additional Information on 5 and 10 Agorot Coins by M. de Vries, Holland	21
Ukrainian 100 Karbowanetz Note by Israel Herzig	22
Aleph Beth by Edward Janis	23
Bogus Money Passed in Palestine, 1946-48	24
Club News	26
"Double Strikes" on Mikveh Israel Coin	Inside Back Cover

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Kadman Museum, Tel-Aviv

NUMISMATIC MUSEUMS OF THE WORLD

by Wilma Thompson

I - KADMAN Numismatic Museum, Tel-Aviv, Israel

It is fitting that this series of articles on the numismatic museums of the world should start with the Kadman Museum in Tel-Aviv, the location of the second and third annual conventions of AINA.

The Kadman Museum was formally inaugurated on April 1, 1962. It is the second museum to be completed of a group of museums in the north of Tel-Aviv, collectively known under the name of "Museum Haaretz".

The museum was built by the Municipality of Tel-Aviv, on the initiative of the late Leo Kadman, first president of the Israel Numismatic Society, who donated to it his extensive collection of ancient coins.

A special library has been incorporated because of a generous donation from the James and Edith Ross Foun-

dation, named the James and Edith Ross Numismatic Library as a way of expressing the Museum's gratitude for the contribution.

The Kadman Museum is fortunate in having as its director, Arie Kindler, outstanding Israeli numismatist and author of several books and publications in both English and Hebrew.

The permanent numismatic exhibition illustrates the history of coins and means of exchange from earliest times to the present. It also unfolds the history of Israel as reflected in coins. It is supplemented by casts of ancient sculptures and reliefs, maps, documents and transparencies, providing the cultural - historical background to the coins.

Entering the exhibition room, and turning right, the first exhibition case displays an American type collection of gold pieces presented to the museum by Irving and Ruth Moskovitz on the occasion of their fortieth wedding an-

niversary. The presentation was made during AINA's second annual tour to Israel (March, 1970).

The first two showcases contain forms of primitive money such as Nassa shells of Melanesia, amole or salt-ball money of Ethiopia, small iron spears used by the Kulku tribe of Uganda, 7th century Japanese "cash" pieces in imitation of the Chinese cash.

The next three showcases display coins of the Greeks including the 7th century B.C.E. silver coins of Lydia, a tetradrachm of Alexander the Great struck posthumously at Acco in 312 B.C.E., the tiny silver 'Yehud' coin, one of the earliest coins of Juaea, 375 B.C.E.-extremely rare. The fact that Hellenistic coins turn up fairly frequently in the area known as Palestine is significant evidence of Egyptian (Ptolemaic) and Syrian (Seleucid) rule in the 2nd and 3rd centuries B.C.E.

Showcase 7 contains coins of the Hasmonean Dynasty which had gradually succeeded in shaking off the Syrian domination. The Hasmonean coinage, like most other Jewish coins bear no representation of any living creatures so as not to offend the Second Commandment. The display contains coins of Alexander Jannaeus (103-76 B.C.E.), John Hyrcanus II (67, 63 - 40 B.C.E.) and a rare coin of Mattathias Antigonus (40 - 37 B.C.E.) of the seven branched candelabrum or menorah.



Arie Kindler, Director

Coins of the Roman Empire and Byzantine Empire are included along with the revolt coinage of the Jews, from both the Roman-Jewish War and the Bar-Kochba War. Examples of the Jewish coinage are the famous shekels



Why Does an American Make a Substantial Contribution to a Distant Museum?

I wanted the Kadman Museum to have a representative collection of coins of the United States, so that the people of Israel could view at first hand and become more familiar with American coinage and its history. As a coin collector, I appreciate how much one can learn of the history of a country and its important personages through a study of coins. It was with this in mind that my contribution was set up in the same way as my personal collection is maintained and displayed. I seek to make my displays educational.

I derive much joy from coin collecting and I wanted to share my pleasure with the people of Israel, particularly those interested in coins. I am hopeful that my contribution will stimulate others, American as well as nationals of other countries, to do likewise; in time the Kadman Museum will have as fine a collection of world coins as the Smithsonian Institute.

When a new and larger museum will be required, I would consider and give serious thought to contributing my personal collection.

I hope some day my small contribution will blossom into the full realization of my personal dream of a world renowned Kadman Museum.

Irving M. Moskowitz

and half-shekels, the tetradrachm showing the temple facade, coins showing the musical instruments of the Levites.

The display is arranged so that the Palestine City - Coins, Islamic Coinage and Crusader Coinage. The display ends with the coin and paper money of the State of Israel.

The display is arranged so that the viewer is aware once more, that coins are important documents reflecting the

Continued on page 31

The Tokens of the Templars

by Yaakov Meshorer, Israel Museum

Jerusalem

In the 1966 Annual of "Museum Haaretz", Tel Aviv, Mr. A. Kindler, published an article describing the tokens of the Templars in Jaffa (struck before 1888). On page 73, Mr. Kindler mentions two tokens only one of which is described in detail. The first, only mentioned briefly, is rectangular, perforated and of 1 piaster denomination of Breisch & Co., Jaffa. The other, is described in greater detail and is pictured. It is a $\frac{1}{4}$ piaster denomination (round shape) of the same company.

Obv: B & C (= Breisch & Co.)

Obv: $\frac{1}{4}$ 20 mm., 2.2 gr.

Two specimens of this type have been traced by Mr. Kindler. Mr. Kindler adds that it is logical to assume that the denomination of $\frac{1}{2}$ piaster had been minted as well and will be revealed soon. We should like to describe what might represent the whole series on the Breisch & Co. tokens, composed of 4 different denominations, as follows:

- #1. Obverse: B & C, pearled rim
Reverse: One, pealed rim
Rectangular,
22.6 x 19.7
3.77



A view of Haifa in the late 19th Century when Templars flourished in the Holy Land.



Tokens of the Templars (mid-XIXth Century German colonists to Palestine). Square tokens were made for them by Breisch & Co. (B&C.) in Jaffa prior to 1888. The denominations were 1/8, 1/4 and 1/2 piasters, with one-half piaster equal to 20 para. Shown approx. actual size.

- #2. Similar to #1 but perforated in the middle. Figure #1 is different in style; smaller and thinner; 3.3 gr.
- #3. Obverse: B & C pearled rim
Reverse: 1/4, pearled rim
Round, 20.7 mm.
2.5 gr.



A street in the Old Quarter — Haifa in the time of Templar settlement.

Editor's Note: Tokens were used by the Templars, in Jaffa during the 19th century, (not to be confused with the Knight Templars of the 12th century). These were German Protestants who broke away from their church and, led by Christoff Hoffmann, formed the "Templegesellschaft." One of their principal beliefs was in moving to the Holy Land to lead an exemplary way of life in the Biblical tradition. As of 1867, hundreds arrived in the Holy Land settling in Jerusalem, Jaffa, Haifa as well as establishing their own farms. They were quite self-sufficient, maintaining their own schools, creating their own places of business and at the same time still keeping close links with Germany which finally ended in a World War II deportation by the British.

Yaakov Meshorer, the numismatic authority at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, has been researching the background of the Templar tokens.

- #4. Obverse: B & C pearled rim
Reverse: 1/8, pearled rim
Round, copper,
18.5 mm.
2.1 gr.

It is possible to reconstruct the history of this series as follows. These tokens were struck in Jaffa by Breisch & Co.

At first (prior to 1888), only the square tokens of the denominations of 1 piaster were minted. Later on, when

Continued on page 30

The Matzoh Money Of Doctor Wallach

by Dov Genachowski, Jerusalem



It is a piece of white cardboard, 9x5cm, bearing the following text in Hebrew:

"In the name of God, Nissan 5675, Jerusalem, may it soon be rebuilt. No. 733./The honored R. Shlomo Elbe, and R. Joseph Salomon, the Brothers Cohen, the Brothers Shimonowitz and R. L. Kupershmids, God be with them. Give the bearer half a Rotel Matzoh of clean flour, at the price of 15.30 Grush per Rotel/On the account and to the order of the Rabbis the Officials and Commissioners, God be with them".

Yet this token, when bearing the seal and signature of Dr. Moshe Wallach, meant the difference between a holiday or starvation for many families in Jerusalem just before Passover of 1915.

Moshe Moritz Wallach was born in Koln, Germany, in 1866. He received orthodox Jewish education, and his M. D. degree in 1889. He came to Palestine in 1891, charged by the Frankfurt Committee to help Palestine Jews by giving medical aid to the people of Jerusalem.

Following the establishment of a clinic he decided, aided by the Committee, to build a modern hospital in Jerusalem. Building on Jaffa Road,

then rather far away from the city, began in 1897 and the hospital was opened in 1902. Wallach was its Director-General until his retirement in 1947.

During the First World War the hospital was under the flag of neutral Holland, as it passed from the Frankfurt Committee to the Amsterdam "Pekidim VeAmarkalim" — Officials and Commissioners, charged there since the 17th century with helping the Jewish community in Palestine. Because of the hospital's neutral status, it was the site of the surrender of Jerusalem by the Turks to the British in 1917.

Honored at 90

Wallach also founded the first nursing school in Palestine. On his 90th birthday he was awarded the first honorary doctorate of the faculty of medicine of the Hebrew University, and was made a Freeman of Jerusalem. He died, a legendary figure in his lifetime, in 1957.

Old timers in Jerusalem still refer to the hospital not as the "Shaarei Zedek Hospital", but simply as "Wallach's Hospital", and everyday one can hear the conductor of the No. 6 bus in Jerusalem announcing "Wallach's". The hospital rendered proud yet heartbreaking service to the community during the War of Independence.

More recently during the Six Day War, it was cited by the Minister of Defence and by the paratroopers division which fought in Jerusalem for services in the same building, first opened nearly 70 years ago. Recently its Board of Governors announced plans for the construction of a new building, some distance further away from the present building, yet still in the center of the city.

First World War Cuts Lines

Dr. Wallach was very active in the communal affairs of Jerusalem, whose Jewish population under the Turkish rule was dependent upon aid from Jewish communities abroad for its subsistence. The outbreak of the First World War cut these lines off. Enemy countries to Turkey could not do any-



The General Jewish Hospital at Shaarei Zedek . . . "Wallach's Hospital". Starting first with a clinic, Wallach then led the activities which led to the first hospital, opened in 1902. It was the site of the surrender of the Turks to the British in 1917.

thing, and Germany was in the throes of total mobilization, economic as well as military. The only source were the Jews in neutral countries like Holland, and Dr. Wallach represented its Jewish community in Jerusalem. Hence, the Matzoh Money of 1915, when flour was still to be had, at the exorbitant price quoted on the chit or token.

To be valid, the token had to bear Dr. Wallach's seal and signature. I doubt whether any complete tokens exist today, as these were returned by the bankers (whose names are those mentioned on the token) to Dr. Wallach for payment. Dr. Wallach, careful pedant that he was, apparently destroyed these.

The accompanying pictures show the hospital building, the token itself, and Dr. Wallach doing the rounds sometime in the early Twenties.

THE FIRST COINS OF ISRAEL

By Emil Weitz, N. Y.

Much had been written about the first coins of the pruta series, but with all the stories many important details have not been made public and many more questions remain unanswered.

In the course of my many visits to Israel from 1949, I have devoted a great deal of time in an effort to establish the sequence of events leading to the minting of the first coins for the modern State of Israel. The research has been involved and difficult because some of the people involved in the original planning were hard to reach; others have passed away.

It was known that the coins were ordered from England by the provisional Israel Government. But did this action come about suddenly? What moves preceded the decision leading to the order?

It was fortunate for my research activities that my friend, Mr. A. Ilon, the director of the Government printing office gave me the permission in 1959 to search through the archives for any material available relating to 1948 numismatic and philatelic matters. The hours spent in research proved quite fruitful; I was able to gather many pertinent details and much interesting information.

Mr. Emil Weitz, author of this article, was the first to be exclusively authorized by the Government of Israel to promote and distribute the genuine Israel coins in the Western hemisphere: 1950. He is the author of several books and countless articles on Jewish history; creator of the exhibit 4000 YEARS OF JEWISH HISTORY; and also the philatelic and numismatic exhibit, A CENTURY OF JEWISH HISTORY. His books on philately and numismatics will be published this year. Mr. Weitz will contribute articles in THE SHEKEL on the topic: the story behind Judaica Numismatics.

EDITOR.

From many documents, one communication worthy of mention is a letter from Tel-Aviv, dated March 16, 1948, addressed to Mr. A. Idelson, Mr. M. Zagagi and Mr. C. Pinkas. Translated from Hebrew, the letter reads:

"On the recommendation of Mrs. A. Kaplan and Mr. D. Remez, you have been nominated as the Committee for printed matter by the Emergency Committee which is connected with the Executive of the Jewish Agency and the Executive of the National Council. You are authorized to make studies, to decide and to act in accordance with existing conditions, and to assist the sub-committees of the Emergency Committee."

Secretary of the Emergency Committee

/s/ Z. SCHERF

The men referred to in the letter were responsible for all printed material released by the Emergency Committee which in turn, was charged with the preparation and publication of all material relevant to the proclamation of the new Jewish State, including currency, coins and stamps.

The sentence in the letter "... in accordance with existing conditions" refers to the need for most activities to be executed in strict secrecy. This was related to the danger from the authorities of the British Mandate who opposed the establishment of a Jewish State. The preparation and printing of the emergency paper money and stamps in the first two weeks of May, 1948, was executed underground in strict secrecy.

From the letter, it became clear that three men bore the responsibility for printings. Mr. A. Ilon, (the A. Idelson referred to in the letter who subsequently changed his name from Idel-

son to Ilon). He later became Director of Government Printing and was responsible for printing the currency, stamps and minting of the coins. From my conversations with Mr. Ilon, Mr. Scherf and others, the story of how the coins and stamps were conceived finally unfolded.

Early in March, 1948, Mr. Ilon and Mr. E. Kaplan (later the first Israeli Minister of Finance) were travelling in a convoy: trucks, busses and armored cars on the dangerous beleaguered road to Jerusalem from Rishon L'Zion where the convoy was assembled. On this trip they discussed matter pertaining to the preparations for the establishment of the new Jewish State. Their talks covered the printing of banknotes and the urgency of having new coins and stamps available after the proclamation.



The palm has been one of the most frequently recurring symbols of Israel.



The palm as incorporated on the design of the 1948 100-pruta. Plans for these coins started with a discussion on a convoy from Rishon L'Zion to Jerusalem, with designs and execution conducted under conditions of great secrecy.

Upon arrival in Jerusalem, the situation was presented to Mr. D. Remez, who later became the Minister of Transport and Communication. The matter was discussed with Mr. Ben Gurion. As a result, the letter referred to earlier was issued. The three men were made responsible for the printing of matter connected with the establishment of the new independent nation.

Mr. Ilon and Mr. D. Remez went into the matter of the designs of the stamps and coins at greater length. Mr. Remez indicated his preference for a design which would link the past with the modern Jewish State. His idea was that the ancient Jewish coins might offer an answer. As a result of this conversation, the Judaeen coins were to be the basis for the first stamps and modern Israel coins.

Mr. L. Kadman and others were called for consultation regarding coins; Dr. M. Cheski as philatelic adviser. Four artists were thereafter invited by Mr. Ilon to submit ideas and sketches for the forthcoming coins and stamps. As we know, the first stamps had the Judaeen coins illustrated, and the coins had the same designs as Judaeen coins.

Later the same year (1948) an order for coins was placed by the Israel Provisional Government with the *Mint Birmingham, Ltd.* in England, widely known as *Heaton's Mint*. To them, Mandate coins were sent to be melted and Israel Pruta series coins minted. For them it was another commercial venture.

Entirely different was the case with the I.C.I. who subcontracted the order for Jewish coins from the *Mint Birmingham, Ltd.* To differentiate the coins, a special mint mark by I.C.I. was used: a "pearl" on the reverse side of the coin (on the bottom between the wreath).

The I.C.I. celebrated this occasion early in 1949 by inviting journalists to this special historical event. They would witness the first Israel coins in modern times being minted in the Metal Division of the *Imperial Chemicals Industries (I.C.I.)* in Birmingham,

established over 70 years ago by Alfred Mond, the first Lord Melchet.

Minting coins for different countries was normally looked upon by I.C.I. as a commercial transaction. Coins for about two dozen countries were minted there simultaneously.

Mr. Jackson, chairman of the Metal Division, spoke of the drama behind the simple commercial transaction. A link between the past and present was created. It was a thrilling experience to watch the new Israel coins flashing out of the machine at the rate of three in a second. On this occasion the I.C.I. minted 12,000,000 coins for Israel: 8,000,000 50-pruta pieces and 4,000,000 100-pruta coins. As an Israel Pound was 1000 Pruta, the 50-Pruta coin corresponded to one British Shilling and was equal in weight. Like the British "silver" coins, the Israeli coins were 75% copper and 25% nickel. The effect is silvery, however.

The face value of the above mentioned coins was I.P.800,000. They cost the Israel Government I.P.32,516. A handsome profit is made by every country on its coins. All the denominations of Israel coins, pruta series, were minted by I.C.I. and Mint Birmingham.

The final designs of the coins were taken from the ancient Judaeans coins of the Hasmonean period, First Revolt 66-73 C.E. and Second Revolt 132-35 C.E.

The Link with the Past

It may be interesting to point out that there were no coins during the existence of Israel Kingdom as coinage started with the Lydians some 200 years later. The Shekel mentioned in the Bible was a weight and not a coin. The sacred tribute to the Temple in Jerusalem could be paid in the shekel of Tyre because it had acceptable honest weight and fineness in silver. The first coin of independent Jewish State was minted in Judaea during the first revolt 66-73 C.E. and during the second revolt known as Bar Koch-Ba revolt, 132-35 C.E. It is worthwhile to mention that recently several hundred bronze coins and some stone coin molds used for making coins were un-

earthed within 200 yards of the Temple in Jerusalem. By study of the coins, Professor Avigad concludes they were from the First Revolt.

It is believed that the first coin minted after the successful Hasmonean Revolt was by Simon Maccabeus the High Priest, Leader and commander of the Jews, who minted bronze coins after obtaining permission to do so from Antiochus VII, king of Syria, who decreed in 138 B.C.E. as follows:

"King Antiochus to Simon the High Priest and Prince of his Nation and to the people of the Jews, greetings. I give thee leave also to coin money for the country with thine own stamp. Furthermore, when we have obtained our kingdom we will honour thee and thy nation and the Temple with great honour, so that your honour shall be known throughout the world."

It must be emphasized that except for the two revolts mentioned, coins in Judaea were minted by invader powers or during the Hasmonean era with the permission of the occupying rulers.

For the ancient Jew, the coin during the revolts was not merely a commercial token; it was considerably more than that. It was a symbol of independence of spiritual and cultural significance.

Throughout the Diaspora, the coin in its concrete shape disappeared but the symbols remained alive in the hearts of the Jews, a reminder of the glory of the Jewish nation in a free land.

With the rebirth of the State of Israel, the coin with its original symbolic design same to life intact and became a link in the unbroken chain of Jewish History. Jews who touch the coin are at once with the history of their nation. The dream of forefathers became a reality; the coin of a once-again free and independent Jewish Nation.

With the State of Israel looming in the hearts and minds of the Jewish people throughout the world, the Israel coin has assumed the significance of a great symbol, a beautiful message from the Holy Land: "THE INDEPENDENCE".

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AUTHOR

Unique Coin of Ancient Judaea Presented to Magnes Museum

A unique coin of ancient Judaea has been presented by the renowned sculptor, Victor Ries, to the Numismatic Collection of the Judah Magnes Museum, "The Jewish Museum of the West", located in Berkeley, California. The tiny silver coin, weighing only 0.6467 gram, is one of the oldest Jewish coins, extant. It was minted during the period of Persian domination of Judaea, some time after the return of the Jews from the Babylonian exile (440 B. C.) and before the conquest of Palestine by Alexander the Great (332 B. C.).

Only about half a dozen other Judean coins of this period are known; these are in museums or private collections in Canada, England and Israel. Thus, the Magnes specimen is the oldest Jewish coin that can be seen in the United States.

Only one side of the coin has an embossed design. The other side was originally blank, avoiding a portrait which would conflict with the Commandments: **(Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image.)** An "X" has been scratched on the blank side; it is probably an ancient banker's mark testing the quality of the silver. Metallurgical tests have established the composition of the coin as 80% silver and 20% copper, with a trace of arsenic.

DESIGN FEATURES OWL AND LILY

The design consists of an owl, body facing right, head facing front; in the left field there is a three-pronged plant, commonly considered to be a lily. There are two distinct inscriptions: the right field contains a "tet" symbol plus an ancient Hebrew legend, "Y H D" (Yehud), and in the left field, above the lily, there are two Greek letters, "A E".



Schematic drawing of Tet-Yehud Coin. Owl is centre; lily to lower left. Upper left: Greek letter, A E. Upper right: Tet symbol. Lower right: three vertical symbols ancient Hebrew letters "Y H D".

The owl and lily were copied from the famous coins issued by Athens for hundreds of years, starting in the Sixth Century B. C. The tet-symbol, heretofore known only on ancient Judean pottery stamps of the Persian period, is a royal emblem guaranteeing a standard measure of value.

Yehud (or Judah) was the official name of the Persian province in Palestine. Yehud encompassed the cities of Lod in the north-west, Jericho in the north-east, Beth-zur in the south-west, and En-gedi in the south-east; its capital was Jerusalem. Yehud was bordered by Samaria on the north, by Amon and Moab on the east, by Ashdod on the west, and by Idumaea on the south.

The Green letters "A E" are most likely a corruption of the Athenian Coin inscription "A O E", since the Judaeian artisan who engraved the dies of the tet-Yehud coin evidently did not have a knowledge of Greek.

Mel Wacks, Numismatic Consultant to the Magnes Museum, spent over nine months researching the tet-Yehud coin with the guidance of Professor H. L. Ginsberg, noted scholar of the Jewish Theological Seminary. This study was published in the June issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association. Wacks concludes that, "Contrasting with the idolotrous representations of men or gods on other Yehud coins, the tet-Yehud coin (with blank reverse) would have been accepted by the priests for payment of the Jewish Temple-tax, and probably was produced for this purpose."

Judah P. Benjamin and the Currency of the Confederate States of America

by
Harry Flower
Oak Park, Ill.

Readers of THE SHEKEL are indebted to Harry Flower, President of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois for assembling an album which contains a collection of Judaic Numismatic material of North America. It consists of paper numismatic items that are of a Judaic interest pertaining to the Confederate States of America, the United States of America and to the Dominion of Canada.



Judah P. Benjamin, 1811-1884.

Judah Philip Benjamin was born in St. Thomas, British West Indies on August 11, 1811. His parents were English Jews, who had intended to land and settle at New Orleans. Due to the British blockade, the ship on which they were passengers was not allowed into port, hence the landing on the British Island. Later, the Benjamin family settled at Wilmington, N. C., where in due time, Judah was prepared for college.

In 1825, Benjamin entered Yale, and after three years, the family moved to New Orleans. In 1832 he was admitted to the bar. Benjamin became a successful lawyer in Louisiana, and was elected to the State legislature in 1842. In 1847, he was admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court and in 1852 he was elected to the United States Senate from Louisiana. On February 4, 1861 he withdrew from the Senate and allied himself with the Confederacy when his State seceded from the Union. He was then named Attorney General of the Confederate States of America. He also held the post of Acting Secretary of War, but resigned. From 1862 until 1865, Judah Benjamin was Secretary of State. He had been called "the brains of the Confederacy".

After the collapse of the Confederate States, Benjamin fled to England, where he continued his legal career. There he became a distinguished barrister. His treatise, *Law of Sale of Personal Property*, published in 1868, is still a standard work. In 1872 he became Queen's Counsel. Judah Benjamin died of poor health on May 8, 1884.



Judah P. Benjamin portrait as it occurs on Confederate \$2 notes.

The Confederate States of America issued its first currency in 1861. From its first capitol at Montgomery, Alabama, "\$1,000,000 was Authorized by Act of March 9, 1861". The denominations of this first issue were \$50.00, \$100.00, \$500.00 and \$1000.00. On May 24, 1861 the capitol was moved to Richmond, Virginia. From this new capitol subsequent authorizations and issues included the denominations of 50c, \$1.00, \$2.00, \$5.00, \$10.00 and \$20.00. Altogether, there were 72 types of Confederate currency issued with a total of 579 varieties.

In 1915 William W. Bradbeer catalogued and numbered the Confederate currency; G. and C. Criswell repeated this in 1957, using the same numbering system; and in 1959, A. Slabaugh again catalogued and numbered the types.

The portrait of Judah P. Benjamin appears only on the \$2.00 notes. Its first appearance was on a note dated "September 2, 1861", but this was an error (it should have been dated "June 2, 1862"), as no Confederate note less than \$5.00 was authorized in 1861. Altogether, there are six types of the \$2.00 notes as follows:

Criswell Type 38 Slabaugh No. 26
Dated "September 2, 1861"

The central vignette is an allegorical representation of the Confederacy striking down the Union; to the left, bust of Benjamin in oval. There are 11 plate no. varieties of this issue.

Criswell Type 42 Slabaugh No. 45
Dated "June 2, 1862"

Same as Type 38 except for the date as this is the corrected version of that note. This issue consisted of "First Series", 20 plate No. varieties; "Second Series", 11 varieties; and "Third Series", 12 plate No. varieties; a total of 43 varieties.

Criswell Type 43 Slabaugh No. 46
Dated "June 2, 1862"

Same as Type 42 except overprint of a large "2" and "TWO" in green. There are 11 plate No. varieties, all "Second Series".

Criswell Type 54 Slabaugh No. 51
Dated "Dec. 2nd, 1862"

A large "2" in an ornamented scalloped circle; bust of Benjamin on right. Printed on pink paper, this type includes "1st Series", "2nd Series" and without series, a total of 57 plate letter varieties.

Criswell Type 61 Slabaugh No. 59
Dated "April 6th, 1863"

Same as Type 54 except for date. Printed on pink paper this type includes "1st Series", "2nd Series" and without series; a total of 32 plate letter and printer's imprint varieties.

Criswell Type 70 Slabaugh No. 67
Dated "Feb. 17th, 1864"

Same as Type 54 except that a white paper was used, printed with a reddish network background. This type includes 64 plate letter varieties.

The Other Coin Cities Of Israel

By Edward Janis

Back in 1964, the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation presented a series of nine medals devoted to historical cities of Israel.

These pictured a replica of an ancient coin minted in the city, together with a modern aspect of the special attributes of the modern existing city. Technically, with the exception of Avdat, the coin-medals did depict historical cities which possessed a coin mint background. There exists no numismatic evidence of coins of the Nabataeans having been struck at Avdat. The replica shows a coin of King Aretas IV, the father-in-law of Herod Antipas. More likely, this coin was struck at Petra, the Nabataean capital, whose massive ruins exist West of Wadi Musa in Jordan.

Other important cities which issued coins and which should be considered in a further extension of the coin-medal series are as follows:

Sepphoris-Diocaesarea is the city of Tsi-pori or Zippori in the Galilee about four miles northwest of Nazareth. Rebuilt by Herod Antipas, it was the capital of Galilee. Josephus relates a dozen or more incidents in connection with Sepphoris. It was a center of great learnings of Hebrew academics and was destroyed in 339 A. D. as a consequence of a revolt of the Jews of the community. The earliest coins under Trajan show the palm tree (8 branched) with fruit.

Antipatris. In Samaria near the present day Rosh-Ha'ayin. It was founded by Herod the Great and named after his father-in-law Antipater. There exists a unique coin whose bust appears to be Elagabalus. On the reverse, seated in a Tetrastyle Temple is a figure. The legend is . . . ANT ANTI II ATP. The location and the attribution may be questionable.

Neapolis is the modern Nablus; the site of the ancient Schechem; "back of the neck" (Hebrew) between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim. After the Exile, it was the capital city of the Samaritans until it was destroyed by John Hyrcanus in 128 B.C. The reconstruction did not last long for destruction followed again during the Jewish War. The new city was founded after the suppression and the title of FLAVIA was conferred by Vaspasian in 72-73 A. D. All city coinage is dated from this date. Flavia Neapolis was to the West of the previous ruins. The name Neapolis was later Arabized to Nablus. The rich variety of coinage starts under Domitian in Greek and ends with Volusianus with both Greek and Latin inscriptions. Double cornucopiae, Mt. Gerizim, Zeus, Nike, Tyche, City-Goddess, Wolf with the suckling twins of Romulus and Remus all add to the colorful reverses of the coinage.

Sabaste is the modern Sabastiya. It was the ancient city of Samaria, rebuilt by Herod and named after Augustus (Greek-Sabastos) who granted it to him in 30 B. C. It lost its economic and political power due to the proximity of Neapolis which was eight miles southwest. The modern day comparison might be Newark, New Jersey, which is faltering because of the nearness of New York. Under Severus, it became a Roman colony with the title of Lucia Septimia Sabaste. The coinage starts with Nero and ends with Elagabalus. Here the Samaritans obstructed the rebuilding of the Temple of Jerusalem and built their own temple on Mt. Gerizim.

Antheodon was another of the cities which was rebuilt by Herod the Great. The ruins are located northwest of Gaza. Coinage has been attributed to the reigns of Elagabalus (139 A. D.) and Severus Alexander (228 A. D.).



Eleutheropolis is the modern city of Beit Guvrin. It was an important town under the Romans. Septimus Severus, at a visitation, granted special privileges to its inhabitants and thereafter it was called Eleutheropolis—City of Liberty. Talmudic literature of the third and fourth century mentions its sages. Some of the best crusader ruins in Israel can be seen here. Remains of a third century Synagogue; mosaic floors of Roman third century and Byzantine sixth century are close to the road. In the Israel Museum, Jerusalem other mosaic floors and artifacts of Eleutheropolis exist.

Gaza was issuing gold and silver coins long before any Jewish coinage appeared. The controversial Philistino-Arabian and Egypto-Arabian pieces (BMC) are mostly marked **י** a contraction of the Hebrew name for Gaza—Azah. Gaza has a long history. The most southerly of the five Philistine cities, it was originally inhabited by the Arivim (Dent 2:23); allotted to Judah but still occupied by the Philistines; then captured by the Egyptians. Later the Hellenistic city was captured by Jonathan and

then returned to Demetrius after peace with Simon Maccabaeus. Gaza was recaptured and destroyed by Alexander Jannaeus in 96 B.C. and has been changing fealty ever since. The bronze coinage is rich with its decorative mint mark.

Nicopolis is believed to be Amowas, the Emmaus of the New Testament. The present name is Inwas. The coinage is late under Faustina (144–3 A.D.), Lucius Versus (161–2 A.D.) and the ever present Elagabalus (211–2 A.D.). Nicopolis is at the edge of the Valley of Alayon. Here Judah the Maccabee defeated the Greeks and forced his way to Jerusalem. The Romans assembled their legions here to march against the Holy City in 70 A.D. Here in 638 the Arabs pitched their tents after defeating the Christian Byzantines. The British fought here for their first battle for Jerusalem. During the War of Liberation, the Valley was the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting for communication with Jerusalem. The earliest battle recorded here was by Joshua and the Israelites when more of the enemy were killed by hailstones than by the sword of the children of Israel (Josh. 10:11).

Dora is modern Dor on the Mediterranean coast approximately 18 miles south of Haifa. It was a royal Canaanite city (Naphoth-dor), although in the territory of Asher, it was attributed to Manassah. In Solomon's day, it was well known and lay in his 4th District. The new village of Dor is settled mostly by newcomers from Greece. The area is picturesque and remnants of an ancient fort and ruins of other civilizations abound here.

Raphia was a city south of Gaza and appears prominently in the struggle between the Ptolemies and the Seleucids and is now known as Rafah in the Gaza Strip. The coinage begins with Commodus (180 A.D.) and ends with Phillip Senior (244–5 A.D.).

Caesarea Philippi was built by the Tetrarch Philip near a sanctuary of the god Pan (Panaeus). It was the scene of St. Peter's confession of faith and it is here that exists the headwaters of the Jordan in the Golan Heights. Panaeus became Baniyas under Arabic linguistic changes. The coinage shows Pan playing the flute on most reverses.

Time and research may lengthen this list but at present, these are the additional coin cities of Israel not covered by the current coin-medal series.

3rd ANNUAL STUDY TOUR TO ISRAEL SET BY BOARD FOR EARLY MARCH, 1971

The Board of Directors has approved a plan for a 13-day early March, 1971 official AINA Study Tour of Israel. Clubs will be advised of details of the itinerary and travel arrangements, announced Morris Bram, President of AINA.

The tour, planned by one of the nation's foremost travel groups, University Travel of Boston, has provided for a number of major improvements over past trips, including non-stop El Al flights in both directions; timing to take advantage of the off-season air and ground facilities rates; and a departure and return which cuts out airport crowds and confusion.

"The fact that makes the AINA tour different from the tour offered by any other group in the U. S. is the official recognition by the Government of Israel which, in cooperation with Israel's leading numismatists, assures

visits to sites, numismatically-oriented evening parties and social functions absolutely not otherwise available. In each of the major cities, for example, the AINA group will be guests of the local numismatic groups at social and educational occasions", pointed out Mr. Bram.

The group will depart from the U. S. from New York. The tour includes planned visits to all major cities, most famed Roman sites, three kibbutzim, a day at Massada, and provides five days for personal visits, sightseeing or rest beyond the tour's plans. The package price is \$700.00 per person.

Reservations may be made by sending a deposit of \$100 per person to AINA, P. O. Box 3194, Church Street Station, New York, N. Y. 10008. The final day for reservations is January 30th, 1971. For further information and a copy of the itinerary, write today.

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No price lists available at present, but want lists will receive Aldona's usual careful, expert attention. Complete and comprehensive selection of choice collector's coins available.

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 25-27 Great Eastern Numismatic Association, Hotel New Yorker, New York City.

NOVEMBER 6-8 Grand Central Coin Convention, Hotel McAlpin, New York City.

JUDAEAN JOTTINGS

by Mel Wacks

Judaean Journeys

Part I



Hadrian's Adventui Judaea

The Roman Emperor P. Aelius Hadrian was an inveterate traveller, visiting all parts of his empire, from Britain to Thebes in Egypt, from Mauritania to the Danube. In 130 C.E. Hadrian travelled from Arabia, across Judaea, to Egypt. The following year he again visited Judaea.

The purpose of the Roman Emperor making these numerous trips was to ensure the security of the frontiers of his Empire and to set up necessary public works. The large number of engineers, surveyors and other experts who accompanied Hadrian enabled the rapid planning and building of aqueducts, theaters, streets, ramparts and so on. The title, "Restitutor", found on many of Hadrian's coins was fully earned.

After his beneficent visit to Petra, the the capitol of Nabataean Arabia (Judaea's southeastern neighbor) the city was renamed Hadriana Petra.

The Judaeen cities—Gaza, Caesarea and Tiberias benefited from Hadrian's construction program. And the greatest challenge was the rebuilding of Jerusalem, which had been razed sixty years before at the climax of the First Revolt. Orders were given to rebuild the city completely . . . even the 2,000 year old name was changed to Colonia Aelia Capitolinus. In keeping with the Hellenization of the Jewish Holy City, Hadrian planned to construct a Roman Temple on the site of the razed Jewish Temple. This destroyed the hope of the Jews that their Temple would be restored, and was one of the primary causes of the new uprising led by Simon Bar Kochba in 132 C.E.

Coins were issued commemorating Hadrian's visits to Egypt, Macedonia, Spain, etc. and Judaea was no exception.

Bronze coins were struck in several varieties and denominations which show Hadrian attending a sacrificial ceremony in Judaea.

A Sestertius shows Hadrian standing to the right before a female (Judaea allegory) who holds a patera and a box, between them is an altar. On either side of the woman there is a child holding a palm branch. A bull is shown standing in front of the altar.

The sacrifice was the main part of the religious ceremonies of the ancients. For blood-offerings, cattle, goats, sheep and pigs were used. If the creature voluntarily followed to the altar or even bowed its head, it was considered to be a favorable sign. Both of these favorable attitudes can be found on the Adventui Judaea coins.

While sheep and cattle could be offered to many of the gods, at Rome there were special regulations with respect to the victims appropriate to the different divinities. The specified offering for Jupiter was a young steer of a white color, or at least with a white spot on its forehead. This scene was historically significant since the city of Jerusalem had been renamed, in part, for the god Jupiter Capitolinus and Hadrian had made his intention clear to erect a temple to Jupiter on the site of the Jewish Temple.

The altar, which is shown foreshortened in the background, is actually quite tall—about twice as high as the bull standing directly in front of it. The height of altars was proportional to the importance of the god being honored, and Jupiter was the chief of the gods in Roman mythology.

Hadrian is wearing a toga, a symbol of peace which was worn principally for certain ceremonial rites such as the founding of towns, during incantations, at the opening of a temple, and a various sacrificial observances.

With a scroll in his left hand and his right hand raised, the Emperor appears to be mak-

Continued on page 31

Gould's Gelt Guide

by Maurice M. Gould, N.L.G.



I recently came across a letter dated May of 1963 from Clifford Mishler of *Numismatic News*. As I was the Honorary Secretary for the Israeli Numismatic Society in the United States, Cliff had applied for membership for himself, but used a company check. Somehow, there was a mixup in Israel (which was not unusual at that time), and the membership card was sent to Chet Krause; and Cliff, who wanted to become a member very much, asked that the membership be changed to his name.

It was interesting to note that one reason Cliff wanted to be a member was that he joined the numismatic societies of those countries which were featured or had special editions prepared about them.

If any of you can find the edition of June 10, 1963 of *Numismatic News*, it was a special issue completely devoted to the modern State of Israel.

Cliff: I hope the membership cards have been corrected by now.

An Outstanding Collection

It was my good fortune a number of years ago to catalog and appraise one of the most outstanding paper money collections of Emergency Currency of the World, owned by the late Allan Forbes, former Chairman of the Board of the State Street Trust Company of Boston. I had hoped some day to be able to list this material, but I never got to it.

It consisted of sixteen thick volumes which the generous Mr. Forbes eventually gave as a gift to the Massachusetts Historical Society. The reason I mentioned this is that there are a few pieces in the collection which may be of interest to you.

There is a group of small bills used on the tramways in Palestine in the 1 mil, 2 mils and 20 mils denominations. They were various colors: pink, white, grey, yellow and green; and some of the tickets were different sizes, one issue being 1-1/8" x 1-1/2" and another 1-1/2" x 2-3/4".

Also included were Tel Aviv emergency notes of 1948, with the 50 denomination in red and the 100 in blue. There were a few Tel Aviv cooperative pieces in the following denominations: 5, 10, 50 and 100, in red, blue and green, and the Shelow Transport Cooperative also issued a 50 mils in white during the year 1948.

If I locate the entire listings, I hope to present whatever information I have available to you.

Haffner's Wonderful Job

While writing about this subject, I thought of the wonderful job that Sylvia Haffner did in her new *History of Modern Israel's Money*. There is a vast amount of material listed for the first time. I am sure by the time another edition comes out, she will have even more to add to it.

I predict that the field of Israeli exnumia will boom in the future, as more is written about it and its increase in value brings unusual pieces out of hiding.

About the 1963 to 1965 period, I corresponded with Jack Fisher of Kalamazoo, Michigan. Jack was an avid collector and at that time he had a complete collection of Israeli coins, with the exception of three pieces; and he was also completing several sets of Palestinian coins.

When he became involved in the collecting of the paper money of Israel

Continued on page 30



THE DISCOVERY OF VARIANCES

As told by Alice Reid to
Eileen Kempler

The most rewarding experience a coin collector can envision is DISCOVERY . . . like Little Jack Horner of nursery rhyme fame, who "put in his thumb and pulled out a plum"!

This plum is in fact the 1962 five Agorot, large date, Tel Aviv, a coin which is widely circulated; yet to my knowledge, no announcement has been made of any variance of this coin.

A description of the normal five Agorot, 1962 large date, can be found in Sylvia Haffner's publication, *The History of Modern Israel's Money — from 1917 to 1967*, to wit, "on the large date variety the script is flat and narrow and the letter 'SHIN' and 'BETH' are sharp." No mention is made by her of any variance. Therefore, through this article I hope to make notice of this particular coin's variance available for publication.

I am, like so many others, an average coin collector. This hobby permits me to view thousands of coins of every denomination. In its pursuit there are many times when I feel "bleery-eyed" and believe that I am seeing double. When this happens I know it is time to put the coins away.

However, in this particular instance I was too excited by what I saw that I anxiously reached for my magnifying glass just to convince myself through examination and study that I had before me a "find".

I could hardly believe its reality. No, I had not seen double. What I saw was a doubling of the numerical "5", as well as a doubling of the Hebrew word "Agorot" and the Hebrew date visible on the face of the coin. Yes, in effect, my thumb had pulled out a numismatic plum.



Doubling evident in 13X enlargement.

Many collectors who have laid aside this coin because of its listed abundance and lack of numismatic difference which would create interest, can now go rushing to their supply and re-examine them for this peculiar variety. It is not important to know exactly how this coin came about (tired presses or tired eyes). What is impor-



Top: Perfect 5-Agorot coin.

Lower: Doubling noted on 3 coins by author.

tant is that this coin with its imprinted doubling is known to be circulated in number as I myself have found three such coins in examination of approximately 200 "5 Agorots" of large date, year 1962. This error can be compared

in part with the United States "1955 Double Die" penny.

The purpose of this writing is to bring this "find" to the attention of the many collectors who are not aware of this difference. It is not my purpose to frustrate friends who will be searching for this variance, but rather to create a possible market for its trade among our peers—coin collectors who possess them.

I have found this same doubling as previously described for the 1962, five Agorot, large date, on the 1962, large date 10 Agorot.

Isn't it gratifying to know that your eyesight isn't playing games on you? That you are the holder of a rarity and that the door to public demand is open to you, just for the asking? Indeed, the Bridesmaid has now become the bride!

KADMAN MUSEUM OFFERS NUMISMATICS BOOKS IN ENGLISH

The Kadman Numismatic Museum in Tel-Aviv offers for the first time a series of books on ancient Israel and Palestine numismatics in English.

They are:

1. Set of 4-volumes on the coins of
 - a) Aelia Capitolina (Jerusalem)
 - b) Caesares
 - c) Jewish War
 - d) Akko (Acre)

The complete set (incl. postage) - \$60.00*.

*A very limited number of sets is available. Single volumes available only for

- b) - \$14.00, c) - \$10.00, and d) - \$12.00.
- a) - Jerusalem - Not available.
2. Essays in Jewish Numismatics, by Y. Meyshan . . . \$5.00
3. Jewish Coins of the 2nd Temple, by Y. Meyshan . . . \$10.00.
4. Israel Numismatic Bulletin No's 3-5 . . . \$1.00 each.
5. Above in Hebrew No's 1-7 . . . \$1.00 each.
6. Israel Numismatic Journal 1963- Nos's 3-4; 1964-No's 3-4 . . . \$1.00 each.

All above available in very limited quantities. To order, please make check payable to the Kadman Numismatic Museum, P. O. Box 17068, Tel-Aviv, Israel.

COIN AUCTION TO INCLUDE COINS OF ANCIENT JUDAEA

The premiere coin auction of the Superior Stamp and Coin Co., Los Angeles, California, will feature the Sol Alexander Collection of Money of the Bible Days. The collection includes an outstanding selection of coins of ancient Judaea.

The auction will be held on September 24.

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

The Biblical term *tsedakah* is often used synonymously with help and charity? "What you give to charity in health is gold; what you give in sickness is silver; what you give after death is copper . . ."

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

The rarest coin of the modern state of Israel is the 5720 (1960) "8 grain" agora trial piece? A total of seven coins with this variation were struck, for inspection by the Bank of Israel, and some, accidentally, reached circulation and thus are unknown in uncirculated condition.

Additional Information on the 5 and 10 Agorot Coins

by M. de Vries, Haarlem, Holland

1. The scarcity of the 10 agorot 1962 small date

The immediate cause for my curiosity concerning the scarcity of the 1962 10 agorot small date was the observation that in any handful of coins (taken at random out of the purse of an Israeli) it is possible to detect at least one small date and one large date. This observation contradicted to a certain extent the scarcity index as shown by the difference between the prices for the coins in the catalogues by Mrs. Haffner (1st edit. p. 35) and Bertram and Weber (p. 31).

In order to obtain some more information regarding the relative scarcity of the 10 agorot 1962 small date, a simple experiment was carried out on two occasions.

For the first time in 1968, and repeated two years later in May 1970, all small change received over a period of 20 days was kept until the end of each day. The yield was then inspected and the results recorded.

In order to avoid misunderstanding, the repetition of the experiment was not an attempt to be more scientific but was rather motivated by the hope that something unusual would turn up; for example, a 1945 agorot (the odds are smaller than 1 in 3000).

On the average, 20 to 30 1962 agorot were received per day. There were approximately equal numbers of the 10 agorot 1962 small and large date. The experiments indicate that the number of each type which went into circulation was about equal. They do not, of course, provide information

as to how many of both coins were kept out of circulation.

Though I am willing to believe that the uncirculated small date is the scarcest of the two, I do not see any reason for this if the number of both coins which went into circulation is about equal. Perhaps other collectors can shed some light on this matter.

2. Differences between the larger and smaller 10 agorot 1962.

The differences on the reverse of both coins have been clearly described by Mrs. Haffner in her catalogue. Careful inspection of the obverse shows that also for this side different dies must have been used.

- *The leaves of the palm tree on the small date are slightly more curved as if the tips bend under a heavier weight.*
- *The indentations in the leaves of the small date are deeper or more distinct.*
- *The "dates" on the small date are larger and closer together.*
- *The letters of the word Jisra'el on the small date are serifed.*
- *In the Arabic translation of "Israel" the two dots (near the top) are on the small date clearly distinguished while on the large date they run into each other.*

3. Differences between the large and small date 5 agorot 1962.

The differences on the reverse of the coin have been described by Mrs. Haffner (1st Edit., p. 33), but differences exist also on the obverse.

- *The pomegranates on the small date are closer together.*
- *The stem on the small date is longer and thicker and penetrates deeper between fruits.*
- *The thorns on the fruits of the small date are larger and seem less sharp than those on the large date.*
- *The "jod" on the small date is larger and thicker and reaches nearly to the edge of the incuse square.*



Soldier-Created Monies Passed as Currency in Palestine 1946-48

Labels from OLD CROW Kentucky burbon whiskey, from the medicine bottle of a San Francisco pharmacy, and even from the package label of The Diamond Match Company were among a selected group of examples given by A. Reifenberg to Louis S. Werner in America. They are samples of the wide range of labels passed as money in Palestine during the period from 1946 to 1948.

The labels with a semi-certificate "look" were accepted by Arab merchants who were victimized by schemes attributed to British soldiers by the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

An unknown newspaper carried a brief item which claims that even the labels from jam and jelly jars were used in the fraud. The article (reproduced) and pencil-dated 1946, reads:

Labels Passed for Currency in Palestine

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Some British soldiers in Palestine used labels from jars of jam as money in purchasing goods from some of the natives there, says the "*Pall Mall Gazette*."

The scheme is said to have worked well until the plum and apple labels presented to the bank for rent.

4946

LONDON, Dec. 20 — Some British soldiers in Palestine used labels from jars of jam as money in purchasing goods from some of the natives there says the "*Pall Mall Gazette*".

The scheme is said to have worked well until the plum and apple labels were presented to the bank for payment.

(1964) (pencil-dated)

The ALPH BETH Page

...Dedicated to the Beginner

by Edward Janis



Q. What is the disposition of the profits of the Israel Coins and Medals Corporation?

SJT, Miami, Fla.

A. This and 14 other similar questions were, in my opinion, motivated by an irresponsible article in a national numismatic publication which stated that through the sale of coins, medals, and stamps, Israel was financing its entire war effort!

An analysis of the gross sales of all numismatic material since the inception of IGSAM (look at your *Haffner*) will reveal that the profits could not have paid for a single Phantom jet.

The inquiries however are fair and proper. In the *Israel Numismatic Bulletin* NO. 3, August 1962, Yaacov Yanay, Director IGCAM, in an article *The Department for Landscaping and the Preservation of Historical Sites* told how the profits of the IGCAM are assigned to the Department for Landscaping and the Preservation of Historical Sites which is part of the Prime Minister's Office.

Some of the activities of the Department have been in laying out parks and restoring and preserving ancient edifices. Those of us on AINA's two previous tours, took note of the hundreds of indicative signs in Hebrew and English erected at historical, archaeological sites and places connected with the War of Liberation.

Here are a few of the Department's works which we of AINA have examined at first hand. We inspected the restoration of the city and sea walls at Acre. Here we saw the new excavations of the crypt of St. John and walked through the interconnecting tunnels that were cleared after centuries.

In Caesarea and Ashkelon we walked in beautifully landscaped parks to view archaeological reconstruction of Roman and Crusader ruins. At Masada a black line in the mortar showed us where the fallen stones were reset into fallen arches, walls and buildings.

At Banias, it would have been physically impossible to reach the headwaters of the Jordan and walk to the caves beyond if the road and the walks were not improved by the Department.

The Department has published tourist guide books in English on Beth She'arim, Hazor, the Dead Sea, Kinneret, Mediddo, Avdat, Acre, Safad and Subeita.

I am certain that every collector of Israel's coins and medals must have the same deep sense of pride and personal satisfaction as your columnist has knowing that the profits of IGSAM are invested into such projects and purposes.



Q. Does anybody have any information on this medal? E. S., Miami.

A. It is obviously a centenary medal issued in Mexico to commemorate the birth of Dr. Theodor Herzl. We would like further information from our readers. Note that the obverse is almost an exact duplicate of the Herzl 5-pound commemorative issued in 1960.

ANCIENT JUDAEAN COINS

We are proud to offer an exciting group of quality genuine ancient Jewish coins. Through these coins you can trace Israel's past — vivid authoritative proof of the historical significance of the Holy Land.

The coins are arranged according to "Ancient Jewish Coins", by A. Reinfenberg. This excellent book gives an historical background with full description and illustration of each coin. The price of the book is \$4.50 (A free copy upon request with every order of \$50.00 or more.

MACCABEAN DYNASTY

R-6	VF	\$ 100.00
R-9	Fine	12.50
R-10	Fine	12.50
R-13	Fair	15.00
R-14	"Widow's Mite" — Average	7.50
R-14	"Widow's Mite" — Choice cond. RARE.	20.00
R-15	"Widow's Mite" — Fair	5.00
R-20	Fine	12.50
R-22	VG	150.00
R-25	VG	25.00

HERODIAN DYNASTY

R-26	Fair	50.00
R-26	EF	175.00
R-27	VF	210.00
R-32	Fair	20.00
R-33	Fine	15.00
R-34	Good	27.50
R-35	Good	25.00
R-55	VG	20.00
R-56	VG	25.00
R-57	VG	25.00
R-59	VG	9.50
R-60	VG	650.00
R-96	Good	25.00
R-102	VG	275.00

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R-118	VG	15.00
R-119	VG	12.50
R-120	VG	12.50
R-121	VG	12.50
R-128	VG	12.50
R-129	VG	12.50
R-130	VG	17.50
R-131	Pontius Pilate — Fair	19.50
R-132	Pontius Pilate — Good	19.50
R-133	Pontius Pilate — Good	17.50
R-134	VG	15.00
R-135	VG	12.50
R-136	VG	9.50

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THE UKRANIAN 100 Karbowanetz NOTE OF 1917

By Israel Herzig

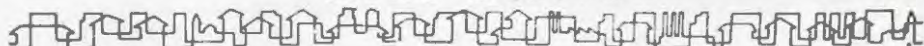
The denomination of this unusual note is printed in Polish, Russian, and Yiddish. Yiddish has always been printed in the Hebrew alphabet, modified by certain diacritical marks. It is a fusion of various medieval western, southern, and central German dialects.

The notes were a product of the short-lived Ukrainian Republic and circulated for no longer than a month in Kiev, capital of the Ukraine. They were issued on 24 December 1917, lasting until 8 February 1918, when the Communists captured the city. They lost it to the White Russian General A. I. Denikin and the forces of Hetman Symon Petlyura, a violent

anti-Semite. The Reds regained Kiev 20 December, 1918. The situation was further complicated by the First World War. On 20 December 1920 the Ukraine was incorporated into the USSR. The note is described as follows:

100 Karbowanetz. 103 x 167 mm. Heavy paper. Front: mauve background, green floral designs, dark blue plant basket and brown floral design, dark brown central design and printing, except for upper left series letter and number; lower left and right signature in black. While the series number 185 appears to be separately printed, there is no serial number.

Club News



CLUB SECRETARIES What your Club does is news, and you are urged to share it with readers of the Journal. Please remember however that reports must be concise, telling (1) When it happened; (2) Where it happened; (3) What happened; and (4) Who it happened to. In addition to reports, Club Bulletins are appreciated as they often provide additional news items. Forward all material to the Editor.

MARYLANDERS FORM INS GROUP

The INS of Maryland was formed in July at a meeting which elected *Harold D. Mondell*, President; *Sidney S. Kuff*, Vice-President; and *David Guttman*, Secretary and Treasurer.

Guest speakers at the first meeting were *Morris Bram*, President of AINA, and *Ephraim Levy*, Director for North America of the ISGMC.

The new club was among the first of all AINA groups to hear details of the forthcoming AINA Study Tour to Israel next March as part of the report by Mr. Bram.

Charter members in addition to the officers include:

Arthur Kaplan
Morris Rosen
David Lebson
Rita Freiman
Milton Bereson
Donald Sussman
Anne R. Kuff
Jerry B. Cohen
Daniel J. Moran

A formal inauguration of the club is planned for late October or early November. The group will meet regularly at the Jewish Community Center of Baltimore.

INS OF LA CELEBRATES FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

An INS group which finds time and space in its club activities to make note of members' birthdays enjoyed a birthday celebration of its own with a steak dinner in late July, advises *Evelyn Sadler*, Editor of the sparkling newsletter of the Los Angeles group.

(Editor's Note: Club secretaries and publicists of all groups ought to interchange their newsletters so that all can learn of activities of mutual interest from each other.)

The Sunday Dinner, which started with a "Happy Hour" at 5:00 PM, featured a steak dinner at \$4.00 (with tax and tip included!!!) The Hon. *Michael Ravid*, Consul General of Israel was guest speaker.



Dr. Seymour Fromer, President of Judah L. Magnes Museum, Berkeley, as he spoke at the June meeting of the Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles. The plaster cast is of the Judah L. Magnes Medal awarded to Gordon Greene for his outstanding work as Bourse Chairman of the COIN Convention.

Recent activities of the club's members were centered around the club members who participated in the C.O.I.N. Convention. The newsletter cites efforts of *Robert Vick* (Cases and Lighting Chairman); *Claire Abelson* (Hostess of the Thursday Night Cocktail Party); *Peggy Borgolte* (Auction Chairman); *Maurice M. Gould* (Educational Forum Chairman); *James Waldorf* (Awards Chairman); and *Armando Ojeda* (Badges and Trophies Chairman). Also cited for contributions were *Ed McDlung*, *Dr. Carl Younger*, *Manny* and *Sylvia Haffner*, *John Baker*, *Carl Chaplan* and *Dick Trowbridge*.

INS prize-winning exhibitors included *Leona Thomas* (2nd Place with exhibit titled *Dr. Theodore Herzl*;

Milton Fishgold (2nd Place with Exhibit titled *Pidyon HaBen*; Sylvia Novack (2nd Place on Exhibit titled *Israel's 13th Year Bar Mitzvah*).

At an earlier meeting it was announced that *Claire* and *Ben Abelson* were to be honored as the *Man and Woman of the Year* at the October convention of the "99" Co.

Dr. Seymour Fromer, president of the Judah L. Magnes Memorial Museum at Berkeley spoke on "*Royal Symbol Discovered on Judean Coins*". For assistance to Dr. Fromer in the preparation of the Special Exhibit Case housing the Rare Coin on display, the Magnes Medal in silver was awarded to *Gordon Greene*.

The club also announced that it will present a Birthday Gift only to paid-up members.

TEXAS CLUB FEATURES FILMS, AUCTIONS

The Israel Numismatic Society of Texas meeting held on August 12th treated members and guests to the beautiful film, *In Search of History* which deals with the history of Israel.

The meeting discussed the Club's participation in the local Israel Festival to be held in late September. The club has secured a booth in the simulated market place and we will need some members to work our table.

Distributions of *Mikveh Israel* coins meeting please be sure and come to this meeting and get them. See Ben Feder who is in charge of handing them out. The binders with the prospectuses have also arrived and those who ordered them may pick them up was followed by an auction after the meeting with "real good buys" for all, reported Harold Z. Nelkin.

(Editor's Note: Thank you, Harold, for your thoughtful gesture in making The Editor an Honorary Member of the INS of Texas. We hope you'll accept a Texas-size THANK YOU from this sooty Easterner.)

Meetings of the Houston Texas group are held in the Community Room of the Mercantile Bank on the

second Wednesdays of the month. Reporter activities include distributions of ordered coins, medals and books, followed by club business. The May meeting included addition of a Junior Member to the list of officers. Auctions follow the meetings.

MASSACHUSETTS INS MEETS AT COUNTRY CLUB IN NEWTON

The first dinner meeting of the INS of Massachusetts was in the elegant setting of the Sidney Hill Country Club in Newton. It was preceded by a social hour before the members and guests (Ephraim Levy, Director IGCMC of Israel; J. J. Van Grover, Secretary of INS of NY; and Morris Bram, President of AINA) could all sit down to the first of the serious event of the evening: consuming a full-course chicken dinner.



Left to right: Miss Sandra R. Walter, Secretary; Mr. Mordechai Savitsky, Guest Speaker at an INS of Mass. Spring meeting; Mr. Louis Green, Treasurer; Mr. Irving L. Rudin, President.

Members were invited to bring their wives to this first social evening, a late June meeting, advised Irving L. Rudin, club president.

Sandra Walters, Mattapan, Mass. is club secretary. Mrs. Anne Blume of Mattapan, Mass. kept record of advance reservations.

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

Israel produces the only coins and notes with three different languages written on them? The languages are Hebrew, Arabic, and English.

MONEY TREE YIELDS

MIAMI MEMBERSHIP FRUIT

A dramatic public relations stunt by the INS of Greater Miami has provided a list of 1700 potential new members to the club, reports Ed Schuman.

The club offered the coin-stamps editor of the *Miami News* an unlimited number of one agora coins of Israel . . . free to anyone who would ask for it, providing a self-addressed return envelope. The very first article, an eight-column feature in the July 31 issue, including money tree artwork, brought in 1000 requests. A reminder article a week later added 700 more names.

As a result, the club will invite all of these individuals who requested the coin the opportunity to attend an open meeting of the local INS group. The first meeting of the Fall was set for September 1, announced Hy Sootin, president. The meeting featured a showing of slides by Ed Schuman of Israel's medals.

(Editor's Note: For a Xerox copy of the newspaper article, write to The Shekel).

ILLINOIS GROUP HEARS ABOUT ISRAEL TELEPHONE TOKENS

The fourteenth general meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society of Illinois (INSI) was held at the Bernard Horwich Jewish Community Center in Chicago on Wednesday, July 29. The June meeting heard Attorney Nathan Eglit speak on the "Constitution and By-Laws" of INSI. He brought copies to this meeting and they were distributed to members present. Copies were mailed to those who were absent.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Nagy who had just returned from a four country European trip were asked to give a brief report. Mr. Nagy stated that the trip was practically non-numismatic, but his talk about Hungary, its history and politics was well received. Especially interesting was his discussion of current events and anti-Semitism in that country. Mr. Leo Hecht took the floor with a suggestion that we should have a program committee with the program chairman to arrange for films, slides, speakers or any other educational or entertain-

ment type of program for meetings. Under protest, Mr. Hecht reluctantly agreed to be the chairman with Mr. Dave Silverman and Mr. Harry Flower as his assistant.

The first exhibitor of the evening was Dr. Alan Feinberg who displayed and spoke on the telephone tokens of Israel. There are three types: the large 26 mm bronze with 7 mm perforation, dated 1955 in Hebrew: the 12 mm brass 1964 and 19 mm cupro nickel 1966, the last two slotted and with 5 mm hole. Also, he exhibited replica shekels of the year 3 of the first Jewish War, and the shekel or tetradrachm of Bar Kochba. (134-135 C.E.) and spoke briefly on these important pieces.

Mr. Flower exhibited the Israel Philatelic-Numismatic combination covers issued by PANart. These were the "Pidyon-HaBen" cover (dated 21-1-70); the set of five using Israel coins and stamps (dated 17-2-70) and the new Levi Eshkol covers, using the silver and bronze medals issued by AINA with the Eshkol commemorative stamp (dated 11-3-70).

In addition, Mr. Flower displayed the complete set of "Lion of Israel Medals" sculptured by Elizabeth Weistrop and struck by Medallic Art Co. of New York. These included the 3 inch bronze, the 3 inch silver (only 20 issued), and the 1½ inch silver. The obverse of this beautiful high relief medal features the Lion of Israel (Lion of Judah) guarding the Menorah of Hanukkah and the reverse features Moses descending Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments, surrounded by the inscription "HEAR O ISRAEL THE LORD OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE" (Deut. 6:4). For information write the Judaic Medal Society, Box 248, Half Moon Bay, Calif. 94019.

In conclusion, Mr. Harry Flower spoke on the very interesting and important Israel Defense Forces "Remembrance Day Medal". This medal was struck in 1963 for presentation by the Ministry of Defense to bereaved families on Remembrance Day for the fallen of the Israel Defense Forces. This medal, designed by Yosef Bass, was for ceremonial distribution only and was not for sale. Due to requests and pressures from various groups and collectors, the Ministry of Defense was approached by the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corp. with the result that in 1969 permission was granted to release this medal to the general

public. This apparently satisfied many collectors but caused aggravation to others who thought that the sale of this "sacred" medal was in bad taste. Consequently, in 1970, the IGC & MC decided to withdraw this medal from the market and the die has been destroyed.

Mr. Flower had been fortunate in obtaining one of the original "Remembrance Day Medals" issued in 1963 and compared it with the new 1969 issue. Close examination indicates that the same die was used, but other major differences are apparent; the **1963 issue**: weight 120 grams, thickness at edge 5 mm.; length of edge inscription "STATE OF ISRAEL" in English and in Hebrew, 38 mm.; the **1969 issue**: weight 99 grams, thickness at edge 4 mm., length of edge inscription 46 mm. Mr. Flower called attention of other Israel Medal Collectors to the existence of these two varieties of this scarce, important State Medal. In the second edition of Sylvia Haffner's **Israel's Modern Money and Medals 1917-1970**, the weight of the 1969 issue is given as 108 grams whereas 3 specimens weighed by members of our club gave a weight of 99 grams each.

Harmer, Rooke Numismatists hosts N. Y. INS 41st. Meeting.

Counterfeits and their electronic detection was the theme of the evening as Harmer, Rooke demonstrated its new equipment for the June meeting of the I.N.S. of New York. The meeting, which took place at the fourth floor galleries of the firm, was highlighted by the **Siemens X-Ray Defractor and Spectroscope**, which breaks down the exact metal content of a coin without harming the specimen in any way, reported Joe Rose.

This machine, of which there are only three in the United States, shoots as much as one million photons of x-ray through a coin per second, recording the results on a graph roughly the size of a telephone booth. By comparing the peaks and valleys of the graph with results obtained from coins previously tested which are known to be genuine can prove or disprove a coin to his own satisfaction. However, running the machine is something else again. Its myriad dials and buttons can only be understood by an elec-

tronics PHD, and the setting of the various components is a very exacting science.

During the evening, Harmer, Rooke staffmen, tested various coins for the attending members, and uncovered several spurious quarter shekels of the Second Revolt. Other equipment was used to test some coins where the metal content was not a factor in determining its genuineness.

The Bausch and Lomb Polaroid Photomicroscope is capable of magnifying a coin, or a section of a coin, up to seventy times, and under its all-seeing eye, the bubbles and pits of the cast were clearly apparent, as were the roughened spots, invisible to the naked eye, where these same pits and bubbles had been manually smoothed over.

Weight of the piece was checked on the **Toppan-Sauter** electronic grain scale, which does the same job as the old pennyweight balance, but much quicker and much more accurately. Weight on the Seafarer, incidentally, checked out okay, but was a meaningless figure as the counterfeiters are usually scrupulous about weight.

Harmer, Rooke also has a **Vickers** magnifying microscope which does a similar job to the **Polaroid**, but can, additionally, project the results onto a small screen so that many people can study and compare at the same time. This machine can magnify up to 12,000 times, and is used principally for stamps, rather than coins. Under most powerful magnification, the edge of a stamp can be brought up to look as thick as a block of wood, with all its fibers laid bare for close study. Using the comparison technique with a genuine stamp of the same issue or paper, the spurious issue is easily detected.

The meeting was well attended, and the members had a chance to look around the galleries at some special exhibits which were put out for them. Among rarities were complete sheets of the Israel Doar Ivri issues, of which some were unique, or among two or three known.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

In order to distinguish the obverse from the reverse on all of Israel's coins just look for the side depicting the coin's value? That side is the obverse.

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GOULD'S GELT GUIDE

Continued from page 18

and Palestine, there were very few collectors interested and Jack had a wonderful opportunity to pick up material which is not available any more today. When a collector chases the material that is in great demand, he helps to push prices up and he is competing with others.

My advice has always been, if possible, find a series or area of collecting that is not popular. Do a little research and you will find the time and effort well spent. This is exactly what Fisher did with great success. Today his collection of paper money in this field is outstanding and his advice is sought after by those who are not as well versed or knowledgeable as yet.

In most cases, the expert, if I may use that term, is always willing to help the collector, whether beginner or advance. Do not hesitate to write or ask for information in your special field. You will find the "authority" to be most cooperative and willing to share his knowledge with you.

THE TEMPLAR TOKENS

Continued from page 5

the need arose, it is believed that the new tokens of 1 piaster were prepared. They are slightly bigger and the designs are of different proportions. The former 1 piaster tokens were perforated and probably served as $\frac{1}{2}$ piaster denominations.

At the same time the other two missing denominations of $\frac{1}{4}$ piaster and $\frac{1}{8}$ piaster, were completed. The 1 piaster was the equivalent of 40 para of the regular issue of the Templar's tokens.

$\frac{1}{2}$ piaster = 20 para

$\frac{1}{4}$ piaster = 10 para

$\frac{1}{8}$ piaster = 5 para

These tokens are extremely rare. Recently token no. 1 was sold for \$140 and no. 3 for \$300. The other two have never been offered for sale and no. 4, is apparently unique. It is hoped that more of these tokens will be found in the future.

KADMAN MUSEUM

Continued from page 3

course of human history. Frequently they are an indispensable historical source particularly when they constitute the only evidence for an uncharted period of history.

The museum structure is a square modern building on a single level, designed by architects W. J. Wittkower, E. W. Baumann and A. Adiv. The Kadman-Kaufmann family contributed a substantial portion of the building costs. The walls are lined with eighteen showcases and a central area offers additional panels for display purposes.

Such unique items as a stained glass window from a mint at Schaffhausen (1565); maps of mints of antiquity, portrait coins of Jewish kings of the 1st century C.E.; and displays relating to commentaries on money, purchasing power, pricing, etc. from such sources as the Mishna and from Diocletian (301 C.E.) are part of the museum collection.

The nucleus of its medal collection is the vast collection of commemorative medals of the two World Wars which was donated to the Museum by the late Maurice Frankenhuis during his lifetime. At the beginning the collection of the museum consisted of about 7500 items (coins, medals, etc.) Eight years later, the collection has passed the 50,000 point. It is the aim of the management to enlarge its collections to all fields of numismatics—ancient to modern—from all over the world. The museum is also building a collection of weights and measures—ancient to modern—from all possible regions of the world.

Material which is not exhibited is at the disposal of students in numismatics upon request and every visitor has free access to the library which consists today of about 3500 items (books, periodicals, etc.) The recently built library incorporates a lecture hall for an audience of 120. The museum arranges nine lectures a year plus a numismatic seminar conducted by Mr. A. Kindler.

The museum has a yearly average of about 12,000 visitors, 40% of whom are schoolchildren.

The museum is easily reached by public buses and has a daily schedule for visitors, open seven hours a day on five days a week, and three hours on two days.

JUDEAN JOURNEY (Cont.)

ing a proclamation . . . could it be the Hellenizing of Jerusalem that preceded the revolt? or that followed the defeat of the Jews?

Unlike the female representation, who represents the Jewish country, shown weeping on the Judaea Capta coins following the First Revolt (c. 70 C. E.), the woman on Hadrian's *Adventui Judaea* coins was evidently meant to illustrate the successful Hellenization of Judaea.

Similarly, the children probably represent the restoration of the population via new (non-Jewish) colonists.

The woman is holding a patera in her outstretched right hand to the Emperor. The patera was a broad, flat dish or saucer used by the ancients for offering libations. The patera was made of earthenware or metal (gold, silver or bronze). The allegorical female figure holds a box in her left hand. A similar representation can be seen in a Roman relief portraying a sacrificial attendant. These symbols—the patera and sacrificial box—would hardly be used by a member of the Jewish faith.

The palm branches held by the children were used in religious processions; they symbolize dignity, royal honor, jubilation and/or victory.

The themes included in the Hadrian *Adventui Judaea* coins have encouraged speculation as to whether they were minted following the Bar Revolt to commemorate the Roman victory or preceding the outbreak, commemorating the Hellenization of Judaea. No final answer can yet be given.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont.)

What will have been discussed? AINA services to the clubs: plans for new films, slide talks, meeting programs, etc. AINA service to its members: publications like *The Shekel* and hopefully, for additional contact, the beginnings of a newsletter program with frequent issues to fill the gap between *Shekel* issues. A convention of AINA members!

But there is more ahead. We looked towards 1973 when as part of the international meeting of numismatists scheduled for America, AINA will take the responsibility of bringing two of Israel's foremost numismatists to America . . . and schedule them for lecture-meetings with you in your clubrooms!

The first meeting of AINA presidents will have reviewed projected creation of a series of monograph and book reprints which will make available to all collectors of Jewish-Palestine-Israel currencies the literature of the past which is now out-of-print.

The meeting will have reviewed plans for the forthcoming *March Study Tour to Israel* and your president will

bring to your early Fall meetings the itineraries, costs and invitations for you to share this rewarding experience with fellow numismatists and their wives.

It bears repeating that this is not "just another trip" to Israel. This is the *only* trip, made once a year, where with the cooperation of the Israel Government, tour members meet in each major city with leading numismatists at dinners, cocktail parties, etc. where tour participants take part in scheduled visits to archeological sites and the museums where the heritage and the displays bring your interest in Israel's numismatics into focus.

Is there any wonder that we are so eager for so many of you to share these trips while we are all young? Don't find another year and another reason to defer this trip. Your wife? There is much to interest her and to make the trip as exciting for her as it is for you. If you or she doubts that, we can put her in touch with other wives who have made the journey.

And the meeting reviewed the matter of financing the ever-growing AINA activities. Your support of AINA activities and offerings will help keep our organization moving.

MORRIS BRAM, *President*

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**"DOUBLE STRIKES" REPORTED
ON NEW MIKVEH ISRAEL COIN**



To date AINA has heard of approximately 20 "double-struck" 10 lirot *Mikveh Israel* coins. On the above enlargement it is obvious that only the *one* and the *zero* have this double-feature.

In the fine detail of the windows there is no evidence of double-striking. It can be concluded that the *one* and the *zero* were recut in order to receive greater definition in the final striking. The reverse is normal and shows no evidence of either recutting or double-striking. As such, reference will be made in the future to the recut die of the *Mikveh Israel* coin.

The *Mikveh Israel* coin was introduced on Independence Day, (May, 1970) as part of the 10-pound series.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT COINS AND MEDALS CORPORATION

announces

THE 1971 PIDYON HABEN COIN



Details of the Coin:

Nominal value: 1L.10

Diameter: 37 mm

Metal: Silver 900

Weight: 26 G



1970 PIDYON HABEN COIN — NOTE CHANGE ON OBVERSE

The forthcoming Israel 1971 Pidyon Haben coin, which will be issued by the Bank of Israel annually after Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year) will have a mintage of 15,500 in proof and will be struck by the San Francisco Mint.

The uncirculated will be struck in the Government Mint in Jerusalem, Israel. The 1971 coin (brilliant uncirculated) will have a plain edge while the proof coin will have a reeded one. The new design of the obverse will be changed each year in addition to the date.

Orders are now being accepted by AINA.